



Sunday Worship

**First United Methodist Church of Riverside
4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506**

Order of Worship

January 11, 2026 10 am

**Baptism of the Lord Sunday; New Members Welcoming Sunday;
Child Baptism Sunday**

PRELUDE: "Fairest Lord Jesus" by James Woodman / Robert Phillips, organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #189 "Fairest Lord Jesus" / Led by Kris Lovekin, Hymn Leader**

Verse 1

**Fairest Lord Jesus,
ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.**

Verse 2

**Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.**

Verse 3

**Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.**

Verse 4

**Beautiful Savior!
Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Baptism Sunday) / Led by Loretta Cudney, Liturgist

(Liturgist) Wade into the waters of love;

(People) Step into the rivers of blessing.

(L) Here, find the renewing streams of mercy.

(P) Here, taste the wonder of God's goodness.

(L) Feel the waters of life;

(P) Know the joy of baptism;

(L) See the springs of eternal life;

(All) Sing of the triumph of God's blessing. Amen!

WELCOME / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Matthew 3)

(Pastor) Jesus is the first one who passed through the waters of Christian baptism, Our Eldest Sibling in the new family of God, Womb of Life, through whom all find new life. Let us welcome everyone who joins us in our family time today. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

- Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON) (Isaiah 42, Matthew 3)

You Who Call Us, we come before you in answer to your call in our life. You created the heavens and the earth and placed us here for life and hope. We know your dream for a world that is righteous and just, a world you promise will come to pass. Breathe your Spirit upon us again and again, and bring to life our passion for your bold vision. Make us lights to those who sit in darkness!

In the name of Jesus, who descended into the waters of baptism to show us the way to righteousness, and of the Soaring Spirit, who alights upon those who arise from these life-giving waters. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE: "Amen" (Danish)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Lucinda Edmunds

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS CELEBRATION

Reaffirmation of Faith:

Chris Davies

Elizabeth Haught

Child Baptism:

Joseph Haught (Son of Lewis & Elizabeth Haught)

William Haught (Son of Lewis & Elizabeth Haught)

Louie Haught (Son of Lewis & Elizabeth Haught)

Emilia Haught (Daughter of Lewis & Elizabeth Haught)



Welcoming New Members: Through Reaffirmations of Faith & Child Baptism

(Baptism of the Lord Sunday, January 11, 2026)

INTRODUCTION

(Pastor) Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

Moreover, our Lord has expressly given to little children a place among the people of God, which holy privilege must not be denied them. Remember the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, how he said, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God."

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

(Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader) I present **Chris Martin Davies and Elizabeth Amezcuá Haught** to reaffirm their faith.

I also present **Joseph Lewis Haught, William Elmo Haught, Louie Alexander Haught**, and **Emilia Florencia Haught** for Child Baptism (Their parents are Lewis & Elizabeth Haught).

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

(Pastor addresses all candidates) On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

(Candidates) I do.

(Lay Leader to all candidates) Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

(Candidates) I do.

(Pastor to all candidates) Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

(Candidates) I do.

(Pastor addresses parents of the child baptism candidates) Parents of Joseph, William, Louie, and Emilia: Will you nurture these children in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

(Parents) I will.

(Pastor addresses all candidates) According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

(Candidates) I will.

(Lay Leader addresses the congregation) Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

(Congregation) We do.

(Pastor to the congregation) Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

(Congregation) With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Pastor) (*Chris/Elizabeth*), remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

(Pastor) (*Chris/Elizabeth*), the Holy Spirit work within you, that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Lay Leader) As members of Christ's universal Church, will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

(Candidates) I will.

RECEPTION INTO THE CONGREGATION OF FIRST UMC OF RIVERSIDE

(Pastor addresses all candidates) As members of this congregation, First United Methodist Church of Riverside, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

(Candidates) I will.

CHILD BAPTISMS

(Pastor) (*Joseph/William/Louie/Emilia*), I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

(Pastor) (*Joseph/William/Louie/Emilia*), the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

(Pastor addresses the congregation) Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

(Congregation) We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Riverside, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

BLESSINGS FOR THOSE RECEIVED AND WELCOMED

(Pastor) The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.

(All) Amen!

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF MEMBERSHIP/BAPTISM

ANTHEM: "Alleluia" by Ed Harris / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

***GOSPEL READING:** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (NRSVue) / Liturgist

The Baptism of Jesus

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

(All) Glory to you, O Christ! Amen!

SERMON: “YOU: A BELOVED CHILD OF GOD” / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #252 “When Jesus Came to Jordan” by Fred Pratt Green**

Verse 1

When Jesus came to Jordan

to be baptized by John,

he did not come for pardon

but as the sinless one.

He came to share repentance

with all who mourn their sins,

to speak the vital sentence

with which good news begins.

Verse 2

He came to share temptation,

our utmost woe and loss,

for us and our salvation

to die upon the cross.

So when the dove descended

on him, the Son of Man,

the hidden years had ended,

the age of grace began.

Verse 3

**Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us,
and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Isaiah 42) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) Isaiah calls those who partner with God a light to the nations. We are to establish justice in the earth and bring those who sit in darkness into the light. What important world-shaping work! May we give of our lives and gifts for this work!

(All) Amen!

(Liturgist) I invite the ushers to receive our offerings.

OFFERTORY: "When Jesus Came to Jordan" by Timothy Albrecht

***DOXOLOGY:** #95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" by Thomas Ken
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (Isaiah 42) / Led by Liturgist

**God of Bold Visions for our World, you love all peoples and nations, seeking a
world where everyone flourishes in just and righteous lives. Use us and our gifts for
the newness you declare possible. Make this newness spring forth in and through
us. Amen.**

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #664 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" by Omer Westendorf**

Verse 1

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.**

Verse 2

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.**

***BENEDICTION** / Pastor Kim

POSTLUDE: "I've Just Come from the Fountain," African-American spiritual arranged by Richard Billingham

We are called to pray for:

Timothy Speck, Dewey Edmunds, Rizzy Manacop, Jun Valino, Patrick Russell, Jon Dugan, Marie Madden, Gitanjali Spencer, Liz Jennings, George Callow, Bill Ashworth, Norma Nelson, Ed Lamers, Mack Davis, Pat Beals, John and Susan Logger, Michael Thompson, Melissa Williams, Bill and Helen Nuchols, Mary Herrmann, Jim Ashworth, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke, Marge Wolter, Michelle Arguelles, Robert and Benita Roberts, Scott and De'Ann McWilliams, the family of Connie Taylor

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Please contact the church office for more details.

Sunday, January 11

-Worship/Baptism of the Lord Sunday/New Member Welcoming Sunday/Child Baptism Sunday (Sanctuary) - 10 am
-Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am - 11 am
-UMM Lunch Program/Local Historian (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am

Tuesday, January 13

-Allegro Ringers rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm
-SPRC Meeting (Zoom) - 7pm

Wednesday, January 14

-UWF Walk About (off campus) - 8:30 am
-The Response rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 6:30 pm

Thursday, January 15

- UWF Bible Study: "Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools" (Zoom) – 6:45 pm
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal (Choir Room) – 7 pm

Friday, January 16

- UMM Men's Prayer Breakfast (Mary's Kitchen) – 7 am
- FUMPS Spaghetti Dinner (Pasta Night) Fundraiser (Fellowship Hall) – 5 pm

Sunday, January 18

—"THREE SIMPLE QUESTIONS: #1, WHO IS GOD?" (New Sermon Series, "Three Simple Questions," 1 of 3) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor- 10 am

- Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am – 11 am
- Faith and Fellowship Potluck – Sharing Charcuterie Boards (Fellowship Hall) – 11 am
- Missions Garden (Patio) – 11 am
- English Country Dance (Fellowship Hall) – 3 pm
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Sunday Dinner (Youth Room) – 5 pm

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